

San Diego DX Club Bulletin



January 2014

Dues are due 12/31. Please send checks payable to “SDDX Club Inc” (\$20 individual or \$30 family) to

**San Diego DX Club
c/o Ellen Utschig N6UWW
2104 Poplar Rd
Oceanside, CA 92058-2332**

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved “Top of the Honor Roll” status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow “Big Guns” or “Little Pistols”, you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

For real time DX spotting and lively conversation on a variety of subjects, join us on 144.415 MHz.

JANUARY PROGRAM

K6ZH, JIM PRICE, WILL SPEAK ON HIS and BUD's, N7CW, TRIP TO PERU TO OPERATE IN THE CQ WW CW CONTEST AS OC4CW

JANUARY MEETING NOTICE:

**JOIN US AT Filippi's Pizza Grotto ~ <http://goo.gl/maps/wTdBq>
9969 Mira Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA 92131**

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A Word from the Prez . . .

Dan Severance, N6ERD

Happy Holidays to all with many new ones
in your log

Here is a brief intro for the January
presentation by Jim Price, K6ZH

This past November SDDXC members, Bud, N7CW, and Jim, K6ZH, flew to Peru to operate in the CQ WW CW contest.

They stayed at the QTH of Jack Henry N6XQ (of 6 meter fame, and from San Diego), who lives about 9 months of the year in Peru and has the callsign OA4TT.

Bud and Jim augmented Jack's FB station with 2 Moxon antennas and some bits and pieces of equipment. Prior to the contest Bud and Jim were on the air as OA4/N7CW and OA4/K6ZH – making several thou-



Bud N7CW and Jim K6ZH joined Jack OA4TT – plus Jack's wife and her sister – at Jack's QTH south of Lima Peru for the 2013 CQ WW CW

73, Dan, N6ERD

Vice President's Report

Wild Bill, WB6BFG



Greeting to all!

I sure hope this finds everyone in good spirits and that the end of 2013 was wrapped up nicely! Here's to a great New Year in 2014 filled with good DX.

Please remember that this month's meeting will NOT be at the Sizzler. I hope that everyone received my direct e-mail or saw it on the club's websites. Here is the information that was sent out ~ Temporary Meeting Place:

Filippi's Pizza Grotto ~ <http://goo.gl/maps/wTdBq>
9969 Mira Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA 92131
(858) 586-0888

Social Hour 5:00 P.M. – Dinner 5:30 P.M. – Meeting 6:30 P.M.

The presentation for the January meeting will be our very own world traveler Jim Price, K6ZH. He will talk about his and Bud's, N7CW, trip to Peru to operate in the CQ WW CW contest as OC4CW @ the QTH of OA4TT, A.K.A. Jack Henry N6XQ. Prior to the contest Bud and Jim were on the air as OA4/N7CW and OA4/K6ZH – making several thousand Q's. I would like to hear what you as a club would like to have for presentations.

On the 11th of January: Dan, N6ERD – John, K6AM and I went up to WEMS Inc. in Hawthorne, CA for an IDXC Planning Meeting. <http://dxconvention.org/> There was quite a turn out for the meeting and it went well. We, The San Diego DX Club, are tasked with running the registration table, selling raffle tickets and staffing the prize room (gee, I wonder who will do that!) We will need a number of you that are willing to step up and help out at the registration table, especially when the bell rings at 11:00 AM on Friday till the madness subsides. It is a great way to meet/greet fellow DXer's. We also need salesmen for the raffle tickets. We'll talk about this more at the meeting. For those that are going to camp: This will be at the [Visalia Sequoia KOA Campground](#), 8 miles from the

Convention center. <http://goo.gl/maps/Yyj3E> Reservations are to be made directly with them. In other news about the convention: After a 5 year run Bob "Bubba", W6ZPL has advised us that his Thursday night BBQ has come to and end due to Bubba's BBQ restaurant in Visalia has closed.

Good DX is on the horizon! The M/V Braveheart is enroute to Amsterdam Island with the DXpedition team on board. They have been operating Maritime Mobile using the callsign [VK6FZM/MM](#). The [FT5ZM](#) DXpedition will take place on Amsterdam Island for up to 18 days between the dates of January 15 and February 20 of 2014. Landing, set-up, and take down are included in those 18 days. You can read all about it here: <http://www.amsterdamdx.org/> - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amsterdam_Island - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roaring_Forties This will be an all time new one for some of us and band slots for others. Let's hope for good propagation while they are there!

The 2014 ARRL Arizona Section Convention will be held along with the Yuma Hamfest! The dates are February 14-15, 2014 and it will be at the Yuma County Fairgrounds. Admission is still only \$5, what a bargain! It is one of the biggest Hamfests in the Southwest Division and is now going into its tenth year. Grand prizes are already reported to be up \$13,700! www.yumahamfest.org The Palms Springs Hamfest will be on March 15, 2014. This event has outgrown its original location at the QTH of Gary, KD6QLT and Susan, KD6TVO. It will be held at the Palm Springs Pavilion this year. You can read more about it at this link: <http://palmspringshamfest.com/>

Thanks to all that have sent in their dues! If you haven't had a chance to do so, please bring payment to the meeting.

Here's to a Happy New Year filled with camaraderie and Great DX in 2014!

73 & 88's to the pretty ones ~

Wild Bill, WB6BFG

"To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk" ~ Thomas Edison

Secretary/Treasurer Reports



Secretary's Report

The club's Holiday party was held at the home of Sally & Andre Hansen (K6AH) in Fallbrook on Saturday December 14th. Kudos to the weather gods & our chefs. Thanks to Denise & John Vissat NA6L who stayed to help clean up.



Andre, K6AH, grillin' up some good grub

Treasurer's Report

Statement Balance 12/31/2013 \$4898.16
46 members (over 51%) have already paid their 2014 dues. Thank you! Dues become delinquent 1/1/2014.

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2104 Poplar Rd, Oceanside, CA 92058-2332



Ellen, N6UWW

Editor's Ramblings

Many thanks this month for inputs received from K6GO Gayle, WN6K Paul, N6KI Dennis, K6NA Glenn, NN6R Wayne, N6UWW Ellen, NN3V, Charlie, W6YI, Jim and AD6ZJ Loren. It's always difficult to put out the extra effort and prepare original content, particularly during the busy holiday season, but rest assured that we appreciate your efforts.

It Seems To Me

As indicated in the How's DX table on page 6, the excellent propagation numbers throughout December and into January provided abundant 'DX worked' reports. However, with solar flux as high as 225 and K = 0-2, why couldn't we hear any EU or AS stations on 10m shortly after our sunrise? Granted there were reports of low level geomagnetic storms, solar radiation storms and radio blackouts, but EU was absent for weeks not days. Even today, January 19th, with SF = 128, K=0 and no reports of prior storms and none predicted for today, I did not hear any EU as of 1600Z.

So what's my point. I now believe that there is a fundamental HF propagation prediction parameter(s) that we humans are unaware of. That is, solar flux, SSN, A-index, K-index, electron flux density, etc. provide an incomplete assessment of propagation in the 15-30 MHz range when the sun is active. In addition, with the closure of the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) and facility and lack of funding for related HF propagation studies by the USAF and VOA, etc., it may be decades before any significant breakthroughs occur.

If anyone is better informed or more knowledgeable than I, please enlighten me, for I am confused.

Ron, NORR

CW is not just a mode, it is a way of life

DITs and DAHs

The SDDXC “Top 10 List” is on holiday in December. It will return refreshed and relaxed in February.

I am sad to report that Bruce W. Butler, W6OSP, became a Silent Key on January 16, 2014.

Bruce originally was licensed as W5PXN in New Mexico in 1950. Upon moving to Southern California in the early 1970's, Bruce changed his callsign to W6OSP and activated that callsign in Napa, CA in the mid-1980's.

In 1990, Bruce joined the Board of the Northern California DX Foundation as its Treasurer, and served as the Foundation's President from 2009 until his retirement at the end of 2011. Bruce was a member and past President of the Redwood Empire DX Club, and a member of both the Northern California DX Club and the Northern California Contest Club. He also was a 50 plus year member of the American Radio Relay League.

Bruce operated from a number of DX entities including 3B9, 4O, A6, KH8, H40, HV, KH4, PJ7 and ZF.

Working with Bruce in the NCDXF was a real pleasure for me. His energy was boundless and he was always looking for ways to help activate those “most needed” entities. Amateur radio, and the DX community in particular, has lost a champion; I have lost a great friend.

Rusty Epps, W6OAT, President, NCDXF



January 2014 IDXC planning meeting

NX6T Ops working the NAQP
SSB on January 18th, 2014





How's DX?

This page consists of historical data so members can share information or brag about their accomplishments. For real time info, monitor the club 2m spotting frequency, 144.415 MHz. For future DX info subscribe to the ARRL weekly DX bulletin and/or W3UR's newsletter.

DX worked by SDDXC members during late December and January

Station	Date	Time	Band	By	Station	Date	Time	Band	By
1A0KM	2-Jan	1559	12 CW	K6NA	HV0A	5-Jan	1548	17 RTTY	NN6R
1A0KM	5-Jan	1510	17 SSB	NN6R	J28NC	13-Dec	1526	15 CW	NN6R
1A0KM	6-Jan	0217	40 SSB	NN6R	JT5DX	25-Dec	1444	80 CW	K6NA
1A0KM	4-6 Nov	gray line	12,15,40	W6YI	MI0SRR	19-Jan	1535	12 CW	K6NA
3B8GF	1-Jan	1900	20 SSB	NN6R	OD5ZZ	19-Dec	1607	17 SSB	K6NA
3W1T	21-Dec	1515	10 CW	K6NA	OH1TX	6-Jan	1430 lp	80 SSB	W6YI
4K6FO	9-Jan	1425	40 CW	NN6R	OH1TX	28-Dec	0742	80 SSB	K6NA
4K6FO	17-Jan	1446	40 CW	K6NA	R3PR	9-Jan	1436	80 CW	K6NA
5H1VC	8-Jan	1604	20 CW	NN6R	R6AF	21-Dec	1443	80 CW	K6NA
9H1ET	19-Dec	1643	17 SSB	K6NA	RI44ANT	3-Jan	0520	80 SSB	K6NA
9K2WA	20-Dec	1457	20 SSB	NN6R	RI44ANT	29-Dec	1830	12 SSB	K6NA
9M6YBG	1-Jan	1421	80 CW	W6YI	SM3NXS	5-Jan	1430 lp	80 CW	W6YI
A41OO	6-Jan	1430	40 CW	NN6R	ST2M	30-Dec	1552	20 SSB	NN6R
A61R	21-Dec	1443	40 LSB	NN6R	T77C	19-Jan	1542	12 CW	K6NA
A65BP	10-Jan	1420	40 CW	K6NA	TR8CA	20-Dec	1633	10 CW	K6NA
AU3NIAR	17-Jan	1356	40 CW	K6NA	UA9MA	9-Jan	1430	80 CW	K6NA
C31CT	3-Jan	0201	80 CW	K6NA	V5/DH3WO	1-Jan	2033	15 SSB	NN6R
C91B	5-Jan	1901	17 SSB	NN6R	V5/DL3DXX	9-Jan	0423	160 CW	K6NA
C91B	13 Dec	1937	15 SSB	NN6R	VU2DSI	16-Dec	1504	20 SSB	NN6R
C91J	20-Dec	1645	10 SSB	K6NA	VY1JA	5-Jan	0109	30 CW	W6YI
H40FN	22-Dec	1426	40 CW	NN6R	XV4Y	18-Jan	1436	80 CW	K6NA
H40TA	24-Dec	1549	40 CW	K6NA	XW0YJY	29-Dec	1452	80 CW	K6NA
HS0ZEE	16-Jan	1539	10 CW	K6NA	Z81X	22-Nov	0227	160 CW	K6NA
HV0A	4-Jan	1651	20 CW	K6NA	ZS9MADIBA	13-Dec	1605	15 RTTY	NN6R

QSLs Received

5A1AL	T33A
5J0R	TN2MS
E6AK	TX5RV
FW5JJ	XZ1Z
OD5NJ	YJ0ZS
PJ6/W4VAB	Z81Z

CHECK YOUR LOGS

It's time once again to recognize those of you who have made outstanding DX achievements during the year. Please check your logs and let me know if you worked your 331st current country or more than 20 all time new countries during 2013. Send your totals to: k6am@arrl.net.

AD6ZJ 2013 Goals results, 2014 Goals listed

At the beginning of 2013 I set out to hit some radio goals. I have found that in most areas of life it is important to set goals. Otherwise you get to the end of the year and have no clue where the time has gone. It is also important to be balanced. Between several trips out of the country on business and added responsibilities at home and community service my time on the radio for 2013 was only about 30% of what it was in 2012. Part of my new commitments means that I'm now teaching every Wednesday night and can no longer attend the club meetings. I have no regrets as to my adjusted radio time. 2013 has been a very fulfilling year for me and I look forward to an exciting 2014. If you would like to know more about my community involvement you can ask me (off reflector).

Back to the radio goals... I did OK on some but fell short on others. On all these are for current DXCC (no deleted). This is all from my postage stamp lot with view done with mainly home brew antennas:

- * Mixed goal 300+ confirmed – Result = 16 new ones, 305 worked, 303 confirmed - CHECK
- * RTTY/Digital goal 200+ Result = 12 new ones, confirmed – 198 worked, 185 confirmed – A little short
- * Band Countries goal 1800 worked and 1700 confirmed – Result = 160 band countries puts me at 1808 worked and 1697 confirmed (I'm hopeful I can get 3 more LoTW confirmations in the next 3 days - CHECK
- * 80M goal 200+ worked – Result = 9 new ones, 160 worked, 141 confirmed – Way short
- * 30M goal 200+ worked – Result = 12 new ones, 174 worked, 165 confirmed – Way short
- * 12M goal 200+ worked – Result = 31 new ones, 192 worked, 173 confirmed – A little short
- * 10M goal 200+ confirmed – Result = 21 new ones, 225 worked, 210 confirmed – CHECK
- * 160M goal 60 worked and 55 confirmed by end of April (still going) – Result = 8 new ones so far, worked 53, confirmed 53

Radio Goals for 2014:

Mixed – 315 worked (now at 305)

CW – 300 worked (now at 281)

SSB – 300 worked (now at 272)

DIG – 225 worked (now at 198)

Band Countries – 1900 worked (now at 1808)

8 bands at 200+ worked (now have 5 bands over 200)

80M – 200 worked (now at 160)

30M – 200 worked (now at 174)

12M – 220 worked (now at 192)

160M – Goal for April 2014 – 65 worked, 60 confirmed (now at 53/53)

73 and good DX - AD6ZJ, Loren

The 16th annual Minnesota QSO Party is Saturday Feb 1st! (2 weeks away)

Come join the fun even if you are only able to find time to make a few contacts. This year we will also be having Hiram Percy Maxim operating in the event signing as W1AW/0. Look for Hiram in any of the counties he may be operating in.

Be sure to send us your logs and comments as well!

We look forward to having you join us again this year.

Visit <http://www.w0aa.org/> and look for the links for all the details.

73's

Mark Endorf - WA0MHJ

Musings of a Crazy Lady

By Ellen Utschig N6UWW

Way back when I sat on Daddy's knee as a child, slowly turning the dial on his old Hallicrafters so that the voice coming out of the speaker didn't sound like that of Mickey Mouse, I had no idea how much magic was hiding in those big metal boxes on the desk.

Daddy never pushed us kids to get our licenses. There were six of us and there was already precious little time for him to be on the radio. He didn't need any competition for the hot seat. I pursued typical childhood interests: bike riding, roller skating, kite flying, romping the fields (which would later become home to UCSD) catching butterflies, pollywogs, and blue-belly & horned toad lizards. More often than not I could be found in my secret perch high in the big rubber tree right in our own backyard. My sisters learned to sew & cook. I preferred to be outdoors and never earned any merit badges in home economics.

My brother, Joe, got his ham license (KM6EK) around 1970. In the early 80's my brother-in-law, Mark (N0KII), got his ticket. It was on a family trip to Minnesota for the baptism of one of Mark and our youngest sister's sons in the late 80's that the rest of us kids finally started feeling left out of the fun as far as ham radio was concerned. As four carloads of us toured around Minneapolis, Daddy, Joe & Mark, each in separate vehicles, were able to communicate on their HT's while my sister's family & I were left out in the cold, wondering what the hand gestures and visible laughter was all about. It was then that my sister Katie & her husband Lex & I decided we'd better get our tickets or the rest of the family would all be talking without us (and about us!)

The three of us attended classes weekly at Kearny Mesa Convair Recreation Association. The first night we attended class we saw "HAM RADIO IS FUN" written in giant letters on the chalkboard. We couldn't help but be excited about it with Nick Callas, K6DBJ, as our teacher. Soon we passed our 5wpm code requirement & got our Novice licenses. We were KC6BIZ, KC6BJA & KC6BJB. We could hardly wait for Nick's Technician class the following spring. As soon as we got our CSCE, we made the ritual trip to HRO – the first of many over the years that followed. We all bought identical Kenwood TH-25's. We were "real" hams (or so we thought at the time!) We were N6UWW, N6UWX & N6UWY.

I had just bought a condo. Great... unless you're a ham. I couldn't even hit the local 2m repeater unless I stood on my tiptoes straddling the patio fence. I was able to put a J-pole on a length of PVC pipe which I'd erect temporarily by lashing it to the lattice fence whenever I wanted to chat on the local repeater (usually under the cover of darkness so I wouldn't draw the attention of "Miss Clipboard" of the HOA).

My little HT provided me with countless hours of fun. I stayed up way too late & got facetious with the gang. I collected countless t-shirts and ball caps by volunteering at parades and sporting events. It felt great to give back to my community doing public service communications. I got some pretty official looking uniforms with fancy embroidered patches with stars on them. Those fancy uniforms got me the only helicopter ride of my life and I even got mentioned in a QST article (March 1993). Daddy was so proud to see that my picture was there, too! He didn't even care that it was only in black & white.

With the encouragement of Dennis, N6KI, I got into contesting by participating in the local club's Field Day (I'd eventually Chair that group's 5A effort). What a thrill it was to operate on HF using the club's callsign. I had to get my General ticket. There was just too much more fun to be had and it wasn't ONLY on the local repeater. I passed the theory test on my first attempt but it took five painstaking stabs at the code that I finally hurdled that 13wpm wall. Yes!

I bought a Drake TR-4 from Karl, N6WLX (now ND8DX) but wasn't too sure about that straight key on the 8½"x11" Plexiglas that he threw in "for good measure". I dabbled with code and will be the first to admit

that it has never been enough to get comfortably proficient. I put a length of wire as high as I could get it in the pine tree just off my patio. Harry, W6YOO, pounded in a ground rod into this miserable stuff we call soil (otherwise known as San Onofre Breccia). I was in business.

Solar Cycle 22 was in full swing and I was on HF! The pine tree grew & I spliced more and more wire to my random wire antenna. I bought a laminated world map and started checking off the countries I'd work (some of which I'd never even heard of before!). I got a 10-10 number. I participated in the Challenger Special Event station from W6YOO's QTH and worked all 50 states in 8 hours. I listened as world history unfolded via transmissions from Bosnia-Herzegovina. I kept the condensed smoke in the black box and the magic of ham radio continued to amaze me whenever I'd allow time for it.

Marvin, W6MJM (ex-WB6PKK) encouraged me to join him for checkpoint communications at the off road races in Nevada & Mexico. Woo Hoo! My parents had always forbidden me to go to Mexico and now I was all grown up and nobody could tell me "NO" anymore! I'd be combining my love of the outdoors with ham radio and I'd be totally safe because "we have communications". My mother said novenas the entire time I was south of the border (maybe THAT's what has kept me safe all these years!) and I made it home, time and again, always with incredible stories of new adventures and new friends.

Fast forward to the year 2000. Y2K meant some extra- long off road races to kick off the millennium celebration: the Nevada 2000 and the Baja 2000. I was the lone radio operator at my checkpoints for the Nevada 2000 (a race which required that volunteers leapfrog throughout the entire state for 6 grueling days of racing in the heat of the summer). Thankfully I was hired on by BFGoodrich for the Baja 2000 and that meant I'd more than likely have a hotel room every night rather than tent camping. Better yet, it brought Wild Bill into my life. Let the good times roll!

Wild Bill got his tech ticket (WB6BFG) in 2003, then general in 2007 and got the DX bug in a big hurry. I knew he'd be a natural tester after hearing him run race radio traffic over the years. Together we've had the good fortune to operate as HQ3Z, GJ2A, E51Z, DX1M & JA1YPA in the recent CQWWSSB contests (he also contested as A73A but I wasn't on that trip & I worked as PJ2W on the YLDXpedition). We've traveled to places we've never dreamed of seeing with our own eyes. We've met fabulous friends throughout the world & have experienced some wonderful times. We're both looking forward to a freighter cruise through the Marquesas in the summer of 2014. (www.aranui.com)

I know Daddy's been closely watching over me from heaven since becoming a Silent Key in 1995 and somehow, I guess by writing this, I hope he knows how grateful I am that he introduced me to ham radio and all the magic that has come into my life from inside that black box.

Happy Birthday Daddy! Robert H. Utschig - K6QJP 1/30/1927-7/7/1995



Poway Amateur Radio Antenna Ordinance Update

Poway hams, and the attorney assisting them met with the Poway City Development manager to discuss the Poway amateur radio ordinance.

Consensus is that the meeting was productive. It appeared the City people were attentive, and they asked some good questions.

The Poway hams presented a series of changes to the proposed ordinance and the legal reasons why they were necessary. The presentation was extensive, and included further explanation of a detailed analysis of HF propagation from Poway that supports increasing permitted antenna height, and an explanation of why crank-up towers are not meant for repetitive raising and lowering of antennas.

The City team explained that they would next meet with the Green Valley Civic Association that had so forcefully opposed the effort to enact the ordinance in 2005, and had recently written an opposition letter to the present effort.

Poway will host a "workshop" about amateur radio antenna ordinance approval, to be held February 18th at the scheduled City Council meeting. That meeting will be an opportunity for the public to speak for and against the proposed ordinance.

Our fellow Poway hams ask the DX Club to support them as follows:

Poway hams contributed generously to the San Diego antenna ordinance debacle. They ask for DX Club support. Contribution may be passed to NA6MB, K6GO, NN6ER, or NN3V. They can be made by cash, check, or PayPal to NA6MB.

Plan on attending the February 18th Poway City Council meeting to support Poway hams. What happens in Poway could happen in your city (if it has not already happened). The City Council meeting will start at 7:00 PM at 13325 Civic Center Drive, Poway, CA. 92064. Hams attending will be asked to wear a distinctive sticker, distributed at the Council meeting, so the attending hams may be clearly seen as a forceful group.

73 de NN3V

2014 Arizona Section Convention

10th Annual

Yuma Hamfest

Yuma, Arizona

Feb. 14 & 15, 2014

Yuma County Fairgrounds
2520 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona



www.yumahamfest.org

Check the Website for Additional Information

Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 2 pm Vendor Setup Friday, 7 am - Noon	Event Hours Friday, Noon - 5 pm Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm	Buzzard BBQ & Grand Prize Drawing Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm
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**Vendors & Exhibitors
Consignment Sales
License Testing
Hourly Door Prizes
On-site RV Camping
Famous Buzzard BBQ
ARRL Speaker
Transmitter Hunt
\$5.00 Admission**

**Tailgating (Swap Meet)
Full Seminar Schedule
DXCC Card Checking
Incredible Grand Prizes
Emergency Preparedness
Admission Prize
Hospitality Area
“Near Space” Balloon Launch
Antenna Clinic**

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.840 (–) PL 88.5 Hz

Email Contact: ***info@yumahamfest.org***



We are proud to have the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA) as a sponsor of our event.

The Yuma Hamfest is an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) sanctioned event.



Presented by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization